



**UPDATED LOCAL DECLARATION OF PUBLIC EMERGENCY
TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA**

March 27, 2020

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-51, directing the Florida Department of Health to issue a Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency in the State of Florida and providing political subdivisions within the State with the authority to waive procedures and formalities otherwise required by law pertaining to:

- performing of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;
- entering into contracts;
- incurring obligations;
- employment of permanent and temporary workers;
- utilization of volunteer workers;
- rental of equipment;
- acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials and facilities;
- appropriation and expenditure of public funds; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.2 of the Town Charter authorizes the Mayor to govern during times of grave public danger or emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Mayor declared a public emergency in the Town, and on March 18, 2020, declared further provisions related to this emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-69, "Emergency Management - COVID-19 Local Government Public Meetings"; and

WHEREAS, for the duration of this state of emergency, Executive Order 20-69 suspends any Florida Statute that requires a quorum to be present in person or requires a local government body to meet at a specific public place, and authorizes a local government body to hold public meetings through the use of communications media technology such as telephonic and video conferencing, as provided in Section 120.54(5)(b)2, Fla. Stat.; and

WHEREAS, the City now desires to implement procedures and rules, consistent with the Governor's Executive Order 2020-69, to enable public meetings utilizing communications media technology, such as telephonic and video conferencing.

NOW THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, HEREBY PROCLAIM AND DECLARE:

SECTION 1. In accordance with Executive Order 20-69, I hereby order the implementation of the following rules of procedure for Town meetings utilizing communications media technology:

- a) As used in these rules, "communications media technology" means the electronic transmission of printed matter, audio, full-motion video, freeze-frame video, compressed video, or digital video by any method available, and includes but is not limited to telephonic and video conferencing.
- b) Prior to the commencement of any Town meeting, the Town shall post notice of the meeting in a manner consistent with Section 286.011, Florida Statutes. The notice shall include instructions on how to access the meeting either via telephone, video conference, or other communications media technology utilized by the Town. If the meeting provides the opportunity for public comment in general or on a specific agenda item, the notice shall also include instructions on how and when members of the public may submit comments or questions to be read at the meeting, which may be submitted before and, to the extent technologically practicable, during the meeting prior to the close of any public comment period.
- c) The Town Clerk shall ensure that the meeting complies with this Order and with all requirements of Section 286.011, Fla. Stat., which have not otherwise been suspended or waived pursuant to Executive Order 20-69, including the taking of minutes and making the meeting open to the public.
- d) Public comment shall be subject to the Town's decorum policies, set forth in Section 2-23 of the Town Code of Ordinances. Town Commission meetings shall also be governed by Resolution 2016-13 establishing the meeting procedures for such meetings.

SECTION 2. The orders and provisions of all of the Town's prior Local Declarations of Public Emergency shall remain in effect. Broward County Emergency Order 20-01 and the Governor's Executive Orders 20-51, 20-52, 20-68, 20-69, 20-70, 20-71, and 20-72 are hereby adopted and incorporated into the Town's Declarations.

SECTION 3. This Declaration shall be in effect for as long as the State of Florida state of emergency is in effect, unless this Declaration is earlier terminated.

SECTION 4. This Declaration authorizes the taking of whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community, and requires that such actions shall be reported to and are subject to ratification at the next meeting of the Town Commission.

SECTION 5. This Declaration shall be filed promptly with the Town Clerk and shall be given prompt and general publicity.


SECTION 6. This Declaration shall take effect immediately.

SO DECLARED AND ORDERED THIS 27th DAY OF MARCH 2020.



Mayor Chris Vincent
Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea

ATTEST:



Tedra Allen, Town Clerk